

## Message Text

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64

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11

FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-02 STR-08 TRSE-00

LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 AGR-20 CU-04 ACDA-19 GAC-01

MBFR-03 IO-12 SAJ-01 SS-15 NSC-10 TAR-02 L-03 H-02

DODE-00 PA-03 USIA-12 PRS-01 RSR-01 /199 W

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R 121745 Z APR 73

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5044

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS UNN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

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C O N F I D E N T I A L EC BRUSSELS 2017

HELSINKI FOR MPT DEL

E. O.11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EEC

SUBJECT: CSCE - EC PRESENCE AND COMMISSION PARTICIPATION

REF: A. HELSINKI 935, B. EC BRUSSELS 1537

1. WE TOOK ADVANTAGE OF GEORGE VEST' S PRESENCE IN BRUSSELS TO  
ARRANGE A MEETING WITH EMIL NOEL, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE EC  
COMMISSION, TO DISCUSS CSCE QUESTIONS. KLAUS MEYER, EC COMMISSION  
DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL, WAS ALSO PRESENT. NOEL OUTLINED TO  
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VEST THE COMMISSION' S THINKING ON THE QUESTION OF EC PRESENCE AT THE CSCE AND PARTICIPATION BY THE EC COMMISSION ( REFTELS).

2. NOEL SAID HE ENVISAGED THE FOLLOWING SCENARIO. WHEN MPT IV IS CONSIDERING THE ADOPTION OF THE MANDATES FOR THE CSCE COMMITTEES, BELGIUM ( AS THE EC MEMBER STATE HOLDING THE PRESIDENCY OF THE EC COUNCIL THROUGH JUNE ) WOULD SPEAK FOR THE COMMUNITY, ON BEHALF OF THE NINE MEMBER STATES, WITH RESPECT TO THOSE MANDATES WHICH COVER QUESTIONS FALLING UNDER THE COMPETENCE OF THE EEC TREATY ( E. G. COMMERCIAL POLICY, TARIFFS, TRANSPORT. WHEN THE CSCE MINISTERIAL MEETING IS HELD, PRESUMABLY IN LATE JUNE, IN ADDITION TO ANY STATEMENT THE BELGIAN FOREIGN MINISTER WOULD MAKE IN HIS NATIONAL CAPACITY, HE WOULD ALSO MAKE A STATEMENT IN HIS CAPACITY AS PRESIDENT OF THE EC COUNCIL ON BEHALF OF THE COMMUNITY. IN THIS STATEMENT HE WOULD MAKE IT CLEAR THAT THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY MUST ACT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THE TREATIES, AND COMMUNITY REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES, IN DEALING WITH CERTAIN QUESTIONS. IN LINE WITH THE COMMUNITY STATEMENT OF POLICY, AT THE COMMITTEE STAGE OF THE CSCE ( BUT NOT AT THE MINISTERIAL STAGE), THE COMMISSION WOULD PARTICIPATE, AS NECESSARY, WHEN REQUIRED BY EC PROCEDURES ( SEE ALSO REFTEL B).

3. NOEL SAID THAT THE EC FOREIGN MINISTERS HAD AGREED IN PRINCIPLE AT THEIR MEETING ON POLITICAL COOPERATION LAST NOVEMBER THAT AT THE CSCE THE COMMUNITY SHOULD SPEAK AS THE COMMUNITY ON ANY QUESTIONS WHICH CAME UNDER THE COMPETENCE OF THE TREATIES. ON THE BASIS OF THIS DECISION, HE DID NOT THINK THERE WOULD BE ANY EC PROBLEM IN HAVING THE BELGIAN REPRESENTATIVE ACCEPT THE PERTINENT MANDATES ON BEHALF OF THE COMMUNITY DURING MPT IV. NEVERTHELESS, HE CONCEDED THAT THE TACTICS STILL HAD TO BE WORKED OUT. MEYER ADDED THIS WOULD PROBABLY BE DONE DURING FORTHCOMING MEETINGS IN THE CONTEXT OF EC POLITICAL COOPERATION. WITH RESPECT TO THE COMMUNITY POSTURE AND STATEMENT AT THE MINISTERIAL STAGE OF THE CSCE, NOEL SAID THE EC MINISTERS WERE EXPECTED TO TAKE THIS DECISION AT THEIR NEXT MEETING ON POLITICAL COOPERATION ON JUNE 5 ( REFTEL B).

4. BOTH NOEL AND MEYER ARGUED THAT THE COMMUNITY COULD DO EITHER WAY BOTH FOR LEGAL AND POLITICAL REASONS. WHILE THEY RECOGNIZED PROBABLE DIFFICULTIES WITH THE SOVIETS  
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THEY POINTED OUT THAT THE COMMUNITY COULD NOT BE CONSIDERED IN THE SAME MANNER AS OTHER EXISTING " INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN ECONOMIC COOPERATION FIELD" WHICH ZORIN SAID MUST BE WITHIN THE UN SYSTEM IN ORDER TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE WORK OF THE CSCE ( HELSINKI 936). THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY WERE ALREADY PARTICIPATING IN THE CSCE. ON CERTAIN QUESTIONS THEY HAD TO ACT AS THE COMMUNITY, THEY WERE NOT AN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION. IN ANY CASE, THE SOVIET UNION AND THE OTHER EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES WOULD HAVE TO ACCEPT THE " REALITY" OF THE COMMUNITY, ACCORDING TO NOEL. IF THE SOVIETS, IN RETURN, PROPOSED THAT THE EAST EUROPEAN COUNTRIES BE REPRESENTED AT THE CSCE BY COMECON ( CEMA) ON THOSE QUESTIONS FALLING UNDER ITS COMPETENCE, NOEL SAID HE DID NOT THINK THIS WOULD POSE ANY SERIOUS PROBLEMS.

5. COMMENT: THE ABOVE IS CONSISTENT WITH THE POSITION THE COMMISSION HAS BEEN TAKING ALL ALONG ON THE QUESTION OF EC PRESENCE AT THE CSCE. NOEL, WHILE ADMITTING THAT THE COMMUNITY HAD NOT YET WORKED OUT ALL THE STEPS IN THIS SCENARIO AND THAT IN FACT SOME MEMBER STATES ( I. E. ESPECIALLY FRANCE) WERE RELUCTANT TO PUSH THE COMMUNITY' S PRESENCE AT THE CSCE, HE WAS CONFIDENT THE COMMISSION' S APPROACH WOULD BE ADOPTED. HE EMPHASIZED THE POLITICAL IMPORTANCE THAT THE COMMUNITY INSIST ON THIS POSITION AND STATED THAT FAILURE TO DO SO WOULD HAVE SERIOUS REPERCUSSIONS FOR EUROPEAN INTEGRATION AND THE POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE COMMUNITY. GREENWALD

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BRUSSELS  
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LONDON

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